

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:WPOLIK:DA

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R 111549Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS STATE 271450

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD

SUBJECT: STEEL VRA - STEEL VRA ANTITRUST SAVINGS PROVISION
IN TRADE BILL

1. BARON VAN DER REST HAS SENT FOLLOWING TELEGRAM, DATED
DECEMBER 2, TO SECRETARY:

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

WE HAVE NOTED THE TRADE BILL WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE
UNITED STATES SENATE COMMENCING THIS WEEK.

WE KNOW YOU AND YOUR DEPARTMENT CONTINUE TO FULLY SUPPORT
THE PROVISION IN THE BILL RELATING TO THE VOLUNTARY STEEL
RESTRAINT AGREEMENT WHICH IMMUNIZES THE FOREIGN STEEL
PRODUCERS FROM POSSIBLE PROSECUTION UNDER STATE AND
FEDERAL LAWS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THAT YOU CONTINUE
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TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR SUCH LEGISLATION IN THE LIGHT OF

THE MAJORITY OPINION OF THE RECENT US COURT OF APPEALS
DECISION WHICH PROVIDES NO PROTECTION FOR THE FOREIGN STEEL
PRODUCERS.

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE RESPECTFULLY URGE THAT YOU
CONVEY TO THE APPROPRIATE UNITED STATES SENATORS THE CON-
TINUING URGENCY AND NEED FOR THE VOLUNTARY STEEL RESTRAINT
AGREEMENT PROVISION AS WELL AS THE FAIRNESS OF THAT
PROVISION.

SINCERELY,
BARON VAN DER REST

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS TO BARON VAN DER REST:

DEAR BARON VAN DER REST:

SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR MESSAGE
OF DECEMBER 2, REQUESTING THAT HE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
STATE CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT WHEN PASSED
THE TRADE BILL CURRENTLY BEFORE THE CONGRESS CONTAINS THE
SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE PROVISION IMMUNIZING FOREIGN
STEEL PRODUCER PARTICIPANTS IN THE STEEL VOLUNTARY
RESTRAINT ARRANGEMENTS FROM POSSIBLE ANTITRUST LIABILITY
UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS.

PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT THE SECRETARY CONTINUES TO SUPPORT
THE INCLUSION OF THE STEEL PROVISION IN THE TRADE BILL,
AND WE WILL URGE THE CONFEREES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
IN THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE THE PROVISION
IN THE FINAL BILL TO BE VOTED ON BY THE CONGRESS.
I AM HOPEFUL THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN THESE EFFORTS.

SINCERELY,

THOMAS O. ENDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS. INGERSOLL

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To: BRUSSELS
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